Test 4  
  
1. An organization of people with shared goals that tries to influence public policy through a variety of activities is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. religious denomination   
b. interest group   
c. political action committee   
d. government   
e. corporation   
  
2. Interest groups are protected by which of the following?   
a. First Amendment right to “peaceably assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances”   
b. Second Amendment right “to bear arms”   
c. Fifth Amendment double jeopardy protections   
d. Tenth Amendment   
e. There are no constitutional protections that apply to interest group activities.   
  
3. Robert Dahl describes a number of “access points” for special interest groups to influence policy. Which of the following is not one of these access points?   
a. courts   
b. executive branch offices   
c. political party organizations   
d. Congress   
e. news media   
  
4. Which of the following would not be considered an advantage of interest group activity?   
a. Interest groups provide all groups in society with an opportunity to win support for their ideas and positions.   
b. Joining groups and working for the interests of the group is a natural inclination of citizens and is a method of representation in our democracy.   
c. Interest groups work to concentrate benefits for the few while distributing costs to the many.   
d. The right of association is a basic right protected implicitly by the First Amendment’s right “peaceably to assemble.”   
e. The system is fair in that it gives all groups an equitable opportunity to compete.   
  
5. Throughout the first half of the twentieth century, the concept of labor unions as interest groups continued to grow. What was the relationship between these groups and the goals of the business owners?   
a. Their differing goals, that of worker conditions versus maximizing profits, came into frequent and stark contrast.   
b. The two groups were commendable in their ability to work through differences.   
c. Congress intervened to enforce a peace.   
d. The differences usually led to violent confrontations between workers and the police, who were sympathetic to the business owners.   
e. The two groups ultimately had the same goal, which was the profitability of the company.   
  
6. Which of the following best explains the increase in the number of interest groups during the twentieth century?​   
a. ​increased public interest in public affairs   
b. implementation of the Reagan administration’s ​devolution policies of the 1980s   
c. ​decrease in the overall population   
d. ​amendments to the constitution allowing for interest group involvement   
e. ​the expansion of government   
  
7. Which of the following would be part of an “issue network”?   
a. ​congressional staff   
b. ​journalists   
c. ​researchers   
d. ​the media   
e. All of these choices are correct.   
  
8. When an individual is able to use his or her AARP membership card for a discount at a local retailer, he or she is receiving which of the following?​   
a. ​purposive benefit   
b. ​fraternal benefit   
c. ​material benefit   
d. ​solidary benefit   
e. ​expressive benefit   
  
9. The satisfaction that a group member receives from interacting with like-minded individuals for a particular cause is referred to as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. purposive benefit   
b. material benefit   
c. fraternity   
d. solidary benefit   
e. bonding   
  
10. Groups that exist to promote favorable economic conditions and economic opportunities for their members, are referred to as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ groups.   
a. economic interest   
b. self-help   
c. self-interest   
d. social interest   
e. governmental interest   
  
11. Which of the following would not be included in a list of economic interest groups?   
a. animal rights groups   
b. labor unions   
c. business and industry associations   
d. professional employee associations   
e. business groups   
  
12. The law that requires that employees in unionized workplaces to either join the union or pay the equivalent of union dues to it after a set period of time is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. closed shop   
b. open shop   
c. union shop   
d. solidary benefit   
e. material benefit   
  
13. The American Medical Association (AMA) is an example of which type of interest group?​   
a. ​labor union   
b. ​trade association   
c. ​professional association   
d. ​ideological group   
e. ​public interest group   
  
14. Noneconomic interest groups that focus on specific and sometimes very narrow perspectives and issues, such as abortion or capital punishment, are referred to as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. public interest groups   
b. issue and ideological groups   
c. business groups   
d. opinion associations   
e. environmental advocacy groups   
  
15. Which term is used to describe how interest groups go about influencing government officials?   
a. networking   
b. negotiating   
c. associating   
d. lobbying   
e. campaigning   
  
16. Which of the following is not an example of an intergovernmental lobby?   
a. The National League of Cities   
b. U.S. Conference of Mayors   
c. The Council of State Governments   
d. The National Governors Association   
e. Americans for Free Choice   
  
17. Interest groups perform which of the following functions?   
a. provide information and expertise to government officials   
b. support political candidates through financial contributions   
c. lobby on behalf of their members   
d. persuade government officials to make decisions favorable to their goals   
e. interest groups do all of the these functions   
  
18. ​When an interest group mobilizes public opinion to exert influence on government action, this is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. ​moral suasion   
b. ​invasive lobbying   
c. ​grassroots lobbying   
d. ​intergovernmental lobbying   
e. ​bribery   
  
19. ​In which of the following ways can interest groups be involved in electoral politics?   
a. ​provide campaign contributions through PACs   
b. endorse a candidate   
c. ​perform “get out the vote” calls   
d. provide expertise to candidates   
e. All of these choices are correct.   
  
20. Through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, interest groups use the court system as a means of achieving their goals.​   
a. ​persuasion politics   
b. ​litigation   
c. ​electioneering   
d. ​grassroots lobbying   
e. ​campaigning   
  
21. Which of the following is considered a benefit of television and Internet news reporting?   
a. to help inform viewers of the political agenda   
b. to allow citizens to witness destruction, such as the aftermath of a hurricane   
c. to observe an actual battlefield   
d. to help keep government accountable to the people   
e. all of these choices are correct.   
  
22. Which statement is false?   
a. More than 128 million Americans use Facebook daily.   
b. The average American spends more time watching TV than going to work or school.   
c. The average person spends 40 percent of their year devoted to some form of media.   
d. On average, there are more TV sets per household than toilets.   
e. Most news media organizations in the United States are owned by the federal government.   
  
23. In Abrams v. United States (1919), Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes made an argument for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which today is used as an argument for freedom of the press.   
a. taxing of media outlets   
b. protection of public broadcasting   
c. capitalist approach to media   
d. free marketplace of ideas   
e. protection of libel   
  
24. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was created in 1934 for what purpose?   
a. to control and eliminate controversial ideas on public television   
b. to produce a profit for the federal government by using television and other media   
c. to advance the use of radio as a popular media outlet   
d. to regulate the electronic media through licensing of broadcasters and creating rules for broadcasters to follow   
e. to launch and control communication satellites   
  
25. In the case, FCC v. Pacifica Foundation (1978), the Supreme Court ruled that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. FCC could regulate the broadcast media on the criteria of indecent material   
b. FCC was unconstitutional   
c. FCC was limited in its authority and only had power to license broadcasters   
d. First Amendment prohibited any government regulation of the media   
e. FCC had unlimited authority to regulate newspaper and Internet content   
  
26. The principal functions of the media in the political system of the United States include \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. providing objective coverage of events   
b. facilitating public debate   
c. serving as a government watchdog   
d. providing objective coverage of events, facilitating public debate and serving as a government watchdog   
e. None of these choices is correct.   
  
27. Which of the following would be the best definition of objectivity within the context of the media?   
a. Equity is the only real consideration, meaning that each outlet receives equal time.   
b. The media allow the government to present its version of events.   
c. The media report events fairly, accurately, factually, and equitably while providing perspectives from all sides of an issue.   
d. The media acts as an advocate for the government’s role in the democratic process.   
e. The government is kept completely out of the debate.   
  
28. Ideally, in providing context and commentary on political events, the competing news outlets play a vital role in the democratic process by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. facilitating and advocating public debate of the issues, thus increasing voter awareness   
b. calming public furor over certain events   
c. advocating for the government’s favor   
d. fulfilling the government’s needs   
e. advertising for private companies   
  
29. How did the media assist in the ratification process of our the U.S. Constitution in the 1780s?   
a. Newspapers of the time published only official documents (marriage licenses, deeds to land, etc.).   
b. The media acted as antagonists during this process, as they were intent on defeating ratification of the proposed constitution.   
c. Newspapers published stories of the fight between the federalists and anti-federalists over ratification of the constitution.   
d. The British government successfully shut down the media during the Revolutionary War.   
e. The media were incapable of assuming any roles in a political debate during this time.   
  
30. What was the “era of the partisan press”?   
a. a period prior to the Civil War when the press was overly partial to the federal government and acted as its mouthpiece   
b. a period prior to the Civil War when most newspapers were owned by, or at least supported, one of the major political parties, and this bias was evident in their news   
c. a period prior to the Civil War when the Democratic Party controlled all news sources   
d. a period prior to and during World War II when the federal government issued a blackout order for all news reports about the war   
e. a period of government censorship during the Civil War when all news outlets were controlled by the federal government   
  
31. Though newspapers were politically biased in the early 1800s, by about 1850 they began to distance themselves from particular partisan positions. What was the result of this decision?   
a. Readership suffered considerably.   
b. Political parties removed all financial support from newspapers, which had a negative effect on growth for nearly 30 years.   
c. Readership declined because the news was considered boring without the heated twist of partisanship.   
d. Readership increased.   
e. Advertisers withdrew support and profitability declined.   
  
32. What was the impact of the invention and distribution of radio in the early twentieth century?   
a. It provided instantaneous communication between the media and the audience.   
b. It improved commercial marketing for advertisers.   
c. It proved problematic in that enemy nations could monitor American transmissions.   
d. It exposed an income gap in that most Americans could not afford the device.   
e. It was a nice invention but was overshadowed by the power of the printed media.   
  
33. When was the first television advertisements sold to major party candidates in a presidential election?   
a. ​1920   
b. ​1932   
c. ​1952   
d. ​1968   
e. ​1976   
  
34. Which of the following represented the first televised presidential debate?   
a. 1932—Hoover/Roosevelt   
b. 1948—Truman/Dewey   
c. 1960—Kennedy/Nixon   
d. 1968—Humphrey/Nixon   
e. 1980—Reagan/Mondale   
  
35. The youngest generation of news consumers—those in high school—are most likely to be using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to get their news and information​.   
a. ​newspapers   
b. ​books   
c. ​periodicals   
d. ​digital media   
e. ​radio   
  
36. Which of the following is not an accurate comparison of American political parties to parties from most other democratic countries?   
a. Compared to other countries, American parties are often ideologically vague.   
b. American parties gravitate toward more centrist positions on issues.   
c. Parties in most democracies are strong and well organized, whereas American parties tend to be weaker organizationally.   
d. Compared to other countries, American parties have more clear distinctions based on social class, ethnic, or religious divisions.   
e. Unlike some European counterparts, American parties cannot depend on unwavering support from their constituents.   
  
37. E. E. Schattschneider observed in1942 that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. “democracy is unthinkable save in terms of the parties.”   
b. “factions have a baneful effect.”   
c. “factions are tools of the politically ambitious that tend to promote corruption and bias in the political system.”   
d. “republic under God, rather than democracy.”   
e. “individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives [and] they have the right to live in whatever manner they choose so long as they do not interfere with the rights of others.”   
  
38. What does the U.S. Constitution say about political parties?   
a. It requires presidential candidates to be nominated by political parties.   
b. It makes no mention of parties.   
c. It requires the electorate to use political parties in all elections.   
d. It creates the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to regulate the actions of political parties.   
e. It gives Congress the power to create two major political parties.   
  
39. Which of the following is considered a proper role of political parties?   
a. The constitutional role of political parties is to balance control of the legislative and executive branches.   
b. Political parties control the government, thereby keeping government power in check.   
c. The major political parties play a central role in running government, including organizing and providing context to voters.   
d. Political parties stir dissent so that citizens do not trust their government too much.   
e. Effective political parties successfully eliminate competition.   
  
40. Which of the following is the best definition of a political party?   
a. an organization that seeks to win elections for the purpose of influencing the outputs of government   
b. an organization that seeks to generate a profit from its control of government   
c. a government agency that seeks to control government at local, state, and federal levels   
d. a quasi-government agency that controls the government and minimizes competition of ideas   
e. an organization that seeks to challenge governmental authority through organized protest   
  
41. When first elected, President George Washington considered himself to be a member of which political party?   
a. Tories   
b. Whigs   
c. Republicans   
d. Democrats   
e. He did not consider himself a member of a political party.   
  
42. In the 1828 presidential election Andrew Jackson won easily against the candidate who had defeated him in an 1824 electoral college upset. Which of the following was not a result of this important election?   
a. The Democratic party emerged and became a strong and lasting force in politics.   
b. Political parties quickly realized the need to organize within the states to build a strong organizational base.   
c. Political parties became larger and stronger.   
d. Political parties began to hold national party conventions.   
e. The United States shifted to a one-party system, making it illegal to oppose the dominant party.   
  
43. One theory states that certain elections can be characterized as producing sharp changes in patterns of party loyalty among voters, such as the election of 1860 in which Abraham Lincoln won the presidency. This theory is called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ theory.   
a. partisan   
b. critical election   
c. progressive era   
d. democratic   
e. socialist   
  
44. Which party emerged in the 1850’s to absorb the smaller parties and replace the Whigs as the major opposition party to the Democrats​?   
a. ​Democratic-Republicans   
b. ​Federalists   
c. ​Republicans   
d. Whigs   
e. ​Know-Nothings   
  
45. Between 1969 and 2014 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. ​the Democrats won all but one of the presidential contents   
b. ​the New Deal coalition increased   
c. ​many conservatives in the South have become attracted to the Republican Party   
d. ​two realignments (critical elections) have occurred   
e. ​Democrats controlled Congress for all but four years   
  
46. Dealignment refers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. a shifting of party coalitions in the electorate that remain in place for several election cycles   
b. the decline in voter attachment to both parties   
c. party identification   
d. issue attachment   
e. party unity   
  
47. Which of the following is not a function of political parties?   
a. organizing the process of competitive elections   
b. recruiting and promoting political candidates   
c. establishing networks of business relationships   
d. offering voters candidate and policy choices   
e. offering proposals for making public policy   
  
48. The system in the United States whereby a candidate with a plurality of the votes wins the seat, is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. proportional representation   
b. winner-take-all   
c. disenfranchisement   
d. clean sweep theory   
e. constitutional apportionment   
  
49. Ideologically, American public opinion tends to show certain consistent trends. Ideologically, most Americans are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.   
a. either extreme left or extreme right in their leanings   
b. prone to swing back and forth between liberal and conservative ideologies   
c. prone to follow the lead of European nations such as France and Britain   
d. moderate, or centrist, thus creating a scenario in which the two major parties are leery of venturing away from the center   
e. unsure of where they stand   
  
50. Which of the following is not a factor in motivating people to vote?   
a. an individual’s interest in politics   
b. mandatory requirement of registered citizens   
c. a sense of civic duty   
d. the perception that an individual’s vote can have an impact on an election   
e. social group pressure 